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| <b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b><br><br>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) | Application Number   | 09/554,793             |              |
|   | Filing Date          | 09/19/2000             |              |
|   | First Named Inventor | Zimmer                 |              |
|   | Art Unit             | 1743                   |              |
|   | Examiner Name        | Quan, Elizabeth        |              |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission  | 13                   | Attorney Docket Number | RDID 0043 US |

| ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form<br><input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> After Final<br><input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request<br><input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request<br><input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement<br><input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application<br><input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers<br><input type="checkbox"/> Petition<br><input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application<br><input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation<br><input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address<br><input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer<br><input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund<br><input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group<br><input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences<br><input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information<br><input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): |
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| Remarks   |   |  |

| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT |  |
|--|--|
| Firm or Individual                         | The Law Office of Jill L. Woodburn, L.L.C.<br>Jill L. Woodburn |
| Signature                                  |  |
| Date                                       | 02/04/2003   |

| CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING   |                  |
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| Date  | 02/04/2003       |

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09/554,793  
RDID 0043 US

*Providence*  
*#11K*  
*2-13-03*

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Zimmer

Application No.: 09/554,793

Group No.: 1743

Filed: September 19, 2000

Examiner: Quan, Elizabeth S.

For: Capillary Active Test Element Having an Intermediate Layer  
Situating Between the Support and the Covering

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AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed December 4, 2002, entry of the following amendments and consideration of the accompanying remarks is respectfully requested.

In the claims

Please amend claims 9 and 16. The amended claims are set forth in the attached Clean Version of Replacement Claims for Entry During Prosecution of US Application No. 09/554,793, as well as a Version with Markings to Show Changes Made.

REMARKS

The Examiner's request for formal drawings of the corrected drawings is acknowledged. Two sheets of formal drawings are submitted herewith. Claims 2-5, 7 and 9-16 are pending in the application. Claims 9 and 16 are independent claims.

The disclosure is objected to because of informalities. The heading DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS was indeed inserted via amendment. See, page 4 of the Clean Version of Replacement Paragraphs for Entry During Prosecution of US Application No. 09/554,793 submitted in Reply to the last Office Action mailed August 30, 2002, as well as at page 4 of the Version with Markings to Show Changes Made. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.